

NH INTERGROUP MINUTES – February 3, 2013

ATTENDEES (in alphabetical order by first name – Officers are listed with their first and last names)

Betty L. – Tuesday Manchester 5:30	Judith R. – Tuesday Brattleboro 6:30
Bill G. – Monday Bedford rep, Multi-media chair	Judy – Concord Monday 5:30
Bill P – Thursday Bow 5:30 rep, Region 6 alternate	Kim F. – Saturday Lebanon 11 am
Debi Granfield – Secretary	Leslie Z. – Saturday am Derry
Dee Pingleton – Chair, R6 Rep/WSBC Delegate	Mandy – Lebanon Sunday 5:30
Diane Plourde – Monday Manchester rep, R6 rep, WSBC Delegate	Mary M. – Retreat chair, Saturday am Franklin rep
Eileen M. – Tuesday Lebanon 5:30	Naisa Chase – Belmont pm rep, Answering service chair, Region 6 rep
Jill Meier – Vice chair, R6 rep, WSBC del, Sunday 1pm, Webmaster	Nancy Sullivan – Treasurer
	Mary B. and Lisa D. - visitors

OPENING Dee opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer. Each person introduced themselves by giving their name, service position or what group they represent. Leslie read The Twelve Steps and Kim read The Twelve Traditions. Jill read Concept 11.

Reports

Secretary: The January minutes were accepted as submitted.

Treasurer: The January Treasurer's report was accepted as submitted.

Sharathon: Mary M. was appointed as Sharathon chair. Her group decided that it would be good to have a Sharathon and they decided to host it. A flyer has been forwarded to the Event Flyer Committee. Once it is approved, the final copy will be forwarded to Jill to place on the website and to Dee or Nancy for distribution to the mailing list. The event will be held on April 13, 2013 at the Congregational Church in Laconia.

Retreat chair: A decision regarding the 2014 retreat venue has to be made and communicated tomorrow to the Barbara Harris Center. For the future, Camp Allen is a possibility for a retreat, either in early spring or late fall. Mary will explore the possibility with the Director of Camp Allen. Diane P. shared that OA used Camp Allen before and it worked out well. Nancy went over the price difference between last year and the new amounts for 2014. For this year the price was \$180 for a double and \$255 for a single. Next year they are charging \$188 for a double and \$268 for a single. We need to figure out what we will charge. The concern is to have enough money to cover the retreat leader's room, meals, supplies and any travel costs. Nancy mentioned that we have \$2,030 in the Retreat fund so we do have a cushion. In the end it was decided to vote on the venue and set the cost later. Nancy mentioned that Mary had to let the contact at the Center know the breakdown of rooms, the approximate number of attendees and the dates. By the way, the dates are January 10-12, 2014. Those interested in being on the Retreat Committee should plan on meeting before the next NHI meeting in Concord at 1 pm. They will discuss other options, venues, the possibility of retreats to cover just a few steps instead of all 12 and any other issues.

Motion: Mary M. made a motion that the 2014 retreat be held at the Barbara Harris Center. Leslie seconded the motion. The vote was 14 in favor and 1 opposed.

Unity Day: Lisa D. took a few minutes to discuss Unity Day. She said it was begun years ago due to divisions in some OA groups and Intergroups. This year it will be held on February 23, 2014 from 1-4 pm at the Beverly Hospital. The plan is to meet at the cafeteria for registration and have lunch before the meeting. 5 Intergroups are participating and one person from each Intergroup shares between 10-15 minutes. It includes a small qualification and then the individual shares on tradition 1. There will

then be open sharing on people's experience with unity. At 2:30 everyone pauses and joins hands, which points out that this is a worldwide organization, not just your local group. Please, sponsors, invite your sponsees and car pool from your meeting. The Ways and Means Table will be set up and there is a Raffle basket from NHI. Thank you, Mandy, for the work you did on the Raffle basket.

WSBC questionnaire:

There are 12 by-laws and 13 policy amendments. It was decided to discuss the ones of interest to people. All are eligible to vote, including visitors since it is just giving an opinion.

Amendment H and J: H is housekeeping only but J adds a paragraph to recognize that diversity goes beyond individual approaches to working the OA program. Various opinions were shared including that it seems unnecessary and also that it is in contradiction to the traditions. Dee mentioned that she worked on the committee at the last WSBC and it was being brought forward because they felt that OA needs to do more to bring in more minorities. They are trying to make all feel welcome. **6 voted "Yes" and 10 voted "No"**.

Amendment B: This one adds the tool of prayer and meditation. There was discussion about this that noted that it is in the Big Book and therefore not needed and that it puts the emphasis on tools and takes emphasis off the steps. Someone newer in OA felt it was helpful to have the tools so they knew how to start. For those without much access to literature it is helpful in setting up new meetings. Someone raised the question about how well does prayer and diversity fit together. We were reminded that we are voting only on whether the amendments will be discussed at WSBC. Jill said there is space for comments. **9 voted "Yes" and 8 voted "No"**. Jill was asked to add a comment saying that the wording "Prayer and/or meditation" would be better to recognize those who are atheists or of diverse backgrounds or beliefs.

Amendments A, L and M: 3 motions to edit the preamble. Amendment A would change to compulsive eating and carrying the message through the 12 steps. **10 voted "Yes" and 5 voted "No"**. Amendment L would change the language to say "stay abstinent from compulsive eating". **0 voted "Yes" and 17 voted "No"**. Amendment M would change the language to achieve sustained abstinence from compulsive eating and mentioned the 12 step process. **14 voted "Yes" and 1 voted "No"**. Jill mentioned that it is possible to merge all three into one. Several people commented that it would be worth having the WSBC discussing.

Amendment C and D: These two changes would remove Action Plan as a tool. Someone said they disagreed that the tool makes OA ineffective as the rationale stated. It's our to-do list of all the other tools. Keeping it simple is best. **4 voted "Yes" and 11 voted "No"**.

Jill asked if we would approve saying yes to the remaining items which all seemed to be more housekeeping than not. The majority agreed with that plan.

Motion: Diane P. made a motion to close the meeting and Betty L. seconded the motion.

CLOSING Dee closed the meeting with the Serenity Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Debi Granfield, Secretary.